

Risk Management Division

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Chippewa River Update

Thursday, April 14, 2022

Recent rain and runoff in the upper Chippewa River watershed have resulted in increased levels on the Chippewa River in Eau Claire.

At 7 a.m. the Chippewa River gauge at Grand Avenue read just over 771 feet, which is 2 feet *below* the flood stage reading of 773 feet. At its current level the river has entered our Action stage prompting safety measures and the closure of the lowest lying areas of the Chippewa River Trail.

For the safety of residents, the following areas are closed:

- Chippewa River Trail behind the UW-Eau Claire Fine Arts Building
- Chippewa River Trail at the boat landing behind Hobbs Ice Arena
- Chippewa River Trail street underpasses at Madison Street and Farwell Street
- Southwest Dog Park located at 1000 Ferry Street.

Trails will remain closed until the river level recedes below the Action level of 764 feet. The most recent forecast from the National Weather Service predicts the Chippewa River will reach 764 feet on Wednesday, April 20, 2022. The City will continue to monitor the river closely and may take additional steps as necessary for safety.

What Residents Can Do

Stay Safe

When rivers are at an increased level they can contain debris and generate currents that are stronger, faster, and more unpredictable than normal which makes recreational use of the river unsafe.

Stay Informed

Sign up for Rave Alerts – a free service that will provide emergency messages for Eau Claire County, the City of Eau Claire, and the City of Altoona to you via text, recorded message, email, or all three. To register visit GetRave.com/login/Eau-Claire and click "Register" in the upper right of the site.

Get email updates by signing up for eNotifications on the City of Eau Claire website at EauClaireWI.gov/eNotifications

MEDIA: for questions, please contact Glenn Swanson at 715-839-4908

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